

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15

ICA-11 IO-13 ACDA-12 /101 W

-----119331 071114Z /11

P 070730Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY VICTORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1069

INFO AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

CINCPAC

COMIDEASTFOR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VICTORIA 0745

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, MPOL, PARM, SE, UR, XO

SUBJECT: SEYCHELLES' PRESIDENT DENIES PRESS REPORTS THAT  
SOVIETS ARE SEEKING NAVAL BASE IN SEYCHELLES

1. SEYCHELLES' PRESIDENT F.A. RENE, RESPONDING TO REPORTERS' QUESTIONS AT AUG 7 PRESS CONFERENCE, CHARACTERIZED AS "RUBBISH" AND "MALICIOUS" RECENT REPORTS WHICH HAVE APPEARED IN OVERSEAS PRESS THAT SOVIET UNION HAS BEEN SEEKING TO ESTABLISH A MAJOR NAVAL BASE IN SEYCHELLES. RENE STATED THAT SOVIETS HAVE NOT APPROACHED HIM ON THIS MATTER AND STRONGLY INDICATED THAT THEY WOULD NOT DO SO IN THE FUTURE SINCE SEYCHELLES' POLICY ON THIS QUESTION IS CLEAR AND SOVIET UNION IS "WELL ACQUAINTED" WITH IT.

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2. IN ANSWERING ANOTHER QUESTION, RENE REITERATED THAT SEYCHELLES IS A STRONG SUPPORTER OF THE INDIAN OCEAN ZONE OF PEACE CONCEPT BUT WILL CONTINUE ITS PRESENT POLICY OF PERMITTING COURTESY CALLS BY WARSHIPS FROM ALL STATES SO LONG AS THEY DON'T INTERFERE IN SEYCHELLES' INTERNAL AFFAIRS. HE ADDED THAT THE DANGER OF MAJOR POWER RIVALRY IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AT THE PRESENT TIME DOES NOT PRESENT A SIGNIFICANT

THREAT BUT THAT IF ANY COUNTRY SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASED ITS  
NAVAL FORCES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN, UPSETTING THE PRESENT  
BALANCE, SEYCHELLES WOULD REVIEW ITS POLICY AND POSSIBLY  
"BAN" THE SHIPS FROM THE OFFENDING STATE.  
MATTSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESIDENT, REPORTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 07 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978VICTOR00745  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Subject:** SEYCHELLES\ PRESIDENT DENIES PRESS REPORTS THAT SOVIETS ARE SEEKING NAVAL BASE IN SEYCHELLES  
**TAGS:** MARR, MPOL, PARM, SE, UR, XO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014